

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KIGALI 00380 021812Z

53

ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 PM-03 L-01 SP-02

INR-05 DODE-00 /035 W

----- 030958

R 301500Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3559

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

C O N F I D E N T I A L KIGALI 380

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP

SUBJECT: RWANDA REFUSES ACCREDIT DEFENSE ATTACHE

REFS: A) DEFATT KINSHASA 200 JUNE 191230Z (NOTAL)

B) KIGALI 350 (NOTAL)

KINSHASA ALSO FOR DEFATT

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: GOR NOTE STATING DEFATT NOT ACCREDITED
RWANDA OVERLOOKS FACT PREVIOUS VISIT. GOR POSITION POSSIBLY
BASED ON POLITICAL MISUNDERSTANDING ALTHOUGH LACK USG MIL
ASSISTANCE HAS BEEN LONG-STANDING CONSTRAINT. EMB WILL
ATTEMPT CLARIFY MATTER, BUT GOR HAS SOVEREIGN RIGHT MAINTAIN
ITS POSITION. END SUMMARY

2. EVENTS - DEFATT KINSHASA (ALSO ACCREDITED KIGALI) PLANNED
VISIT RWANDA PERIOD JULY 4-6 TO PARTICIPATE RWANDAN INDEPENDENCE
CELEBRATION. EMB SUBMITTED STANDARD REQUEST FOR FLIGHT
CLEARANCE AS HAD BEEN APPROVED ROUTINELY FOR DEFATT'S PREVIOUS
VISIT LAST OCTOBER IN CONNECTION ARMED FORCES DAY. EMB
INFORMED ON FRI JUNE 20 BY DEFATT (0200 JUN 75 191230Z)
THAT EMB KINSHASA WISHED VISIT CANCELLED BECAUSE OF USG
COUP ALLEGATIONS ZAIRE. BEFORE GOR NOTIFIED, EMB
RECEIVED BLUNT GOR NOTE DTD MONDAY JUNE 23 THAT SINCE GOR
HAD NOT RESPONDED EMB'S NOTES MARCH 22 AND JULY 11 OF
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 KIGALI 00380 021812Z

1974 REPEAT 1974 (RELATED INCUMBENT DEFATT NOMINATION),

GOR HAD "NEVER APPROVED" DEFATT CANDIDACY, GOR POLICY IS TO ACCREDIT ONLY RESIDENT DEFATTS AND THAT FLIGHT CLEARANCE REFUSED.

3. ANALYSIS - PREVIOUS AS WELL AS CURRENT GOR HAVE HAD RESERVATIONS ABOUT DEFATT VISITS BELIEVING MILITARY RELATIONS ONLY WARRANTED IF MILITARY ASSISTANCE BEING PROVIDED. WHILE VISITS ALWAYS HAD TO BE ARRANGED WITH DELICACY AND BE RELATED CEREMONIAL EVENTS, GOR RAISED NO OBJECTION DEFATT NEILOND'S FAREWELL CALL JULY 74 NOR DEFATT GROW'S INITIAL VISIT LAST OCTOBER. ALTHOUGH NO MIL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM EXISTS OR IS ANTICIPATED, A FEW RWANDAN OFFICERS A YEAR RECEIVED IPA TRNG (NOW DEFUNCT).

4. FONOFF NOTE SHOWS EVIDENCE HASTY DRAFTING AND IS BASED ONLY ON COPY FLIGHT CLEARANCE REQUEST SUBMITTED DIRECTLY (AS NORMAL) TO MINCOMM. THIS SUGGESTS FONMIN WENZTO UNUSUAL LENGTH (AFTER A YEAR'S LAPSE) TO PUT A POSITION ON RECORD. WE BELIEVE IT LIKELY THIS INITIATIVE IS GOR REACTION TO UNFORTUNATELY WORDED DEFATT CABLE (REFTEL A) WHICH SENT EMB KIGALI UNCLASSIFIED (AND THUS PASSED THROUGH RWANDA PTT WHERE WE ASSUME OUR UNCLASSIFIED TRAFFIC IS ROUTINELY READ). TO UNINITIATED, CABLE COULD LEND CREDENCE TO CURRENT ALLEGATION USG/MIL INVOLVEMENT IN COUP ZAIRE (OR EVEN RWANDA). CABLE READ AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE REGRET THAT PROJECTED DATT VISIT 4, 5, 6 JULY IS CANCELLED. AMEMB KINSHASA FEELS POLITICAL SITUATION NOT RIPE. UNQUOTE

5. PROPOSED ACTION - GOR NATURALLY HAS SOVEREIGN RIGHT EXTEND OR REFUSE ACCREDITATION AS IT PLEASES. ON OTHER HAND, NOTE OVERLOOKS FACT DEFATT HAS ALREADY VISITED RWANDA, HAD SOCIAL CONVERSATIONS WITH GOR OFFICIALS AND RECEIVED INVITATIONS (ISSUED AFTER ARRIVAL) TO OFFICIAL FUNCTIONS. THOSE ACTS CONSTITUTE PRIMA FACIE EVIDENCE GOR ACCREDITATION. MOST IMPORTANT ASPECT IS TO DETERMINE CAUSE GOR ACTION AND TO CLARIFY MATTER IF BASED ON MISUNDERSTANDING. I THUS DO NOT PROPOSE RESPOND TO NOTE UNTIL OPPORTUNITY ARISES DISCUSS MATTER INFORMALLY WITH FONMIN. IF GOR SUBSEQUENTLY MAINTAINS ITS POSITION, WE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 KIGALI 00380 021812Z

ASSUME NOT ONLY DEFATT BUT PENDING NOMINATION NEW AIR ATT WILL BE SIMILARLY AFFECTED. FRITTS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, MILITARY ATTACHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: johnsorg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975KIGALI00380
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750229-0747
From: KIGALI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975064/aaaaadeptel
Line Count: 109
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: johnsorg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 AUG 2003 by MartinML>; APPROVED <15 DEC 2003 by johnsorg>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RWANDA REFUSES ACCREDIT DEFENSE ATTACHE
TAGS: PDIP, MILI
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006